A True ACCOUNT OF THAT Dreadful Fire,

Which happened in the House of

Mr. Samuel Seaton, a Pewterer,

At the Corner of *White-Cross*-Street, over against *Cripple-Gate*-Church, *London*: On the *Twenty-Seventh* of this Instant *March*, 1687. In which were Consumed (or Burnt) Seven Persons; *viz.* Mrs. *Seaton*, (the Pewterer's Wife) her little *Child*, and her *Maid*; Mr. *Leach*, (a Shoo-maker) his *Wife*, and *Two Daughters*.

With an Account of the Circumstances, that attended it; and many other matters and Things (strange and unusual) relating thereunto; and of their Decent Burial.

This may be Printed, March 30*th*. 1687. R. P.

LONDON,
Printed by *William Downing*, in Great St. *Bartholomew*'s Close, 1687.

A TRUE

ACCOUNT

OF THAT

Dreadful Fire,

Which happened in the House of

Mr. Samuel Seaton, a Pewterer,

At the Corner of White-Cross-Street, over against Cripple-Gate [illegible] On the Fourth-Seventh of this Instant [illegible] Burne) Seven Persons; [illegible] Mrs. Seaton, (the Pewterer's Wife) her little Girl and her Maid; Mr. [illegible], (a Shee-[illegible]) and Tim Dugstere.

With an ACCOUNT of the Circumstances, that attended it; and many other matters and Things (strange and unusual) relating thereto; and of their Recent Burial.

This may be Printed, March 30th. 1687. L. Ja.

LONDON,

Printed by William Downing, in Great St. Bartholomew's Close, 1687.

A True

RELATION

OF THAT

Sad and Dreadful FIRE,

Which happened in the House of

Mr. *SAMUEL SEATON*, a Pewterer, at the Corner of *White-Cross*-Street, over against *Cripple-Gate*-Church, *London*.

THe *dismal Effects of Fire have been so sensibly felt by the Citizens of* London, *whose Fortunes have been ruined by the Violences of its not easily-restrain'd Power, that (methinks) it should induce them to a more than ordinary Circumspection, in preventing those Consequences which are the immediate Effects of a supine Carelesness and Negligence.*

ligence. So many and surprizing have been the Misfortunes of Landlords, and Masters of Families, that they are equally engaged to a strict Inspection of their Workmen and Servants, that neither an ill-plac'd Candle, or an unregarded Snuff of a Pipe of Tobacco, *nor the careless Airing of* Linnen, *(by which this unhappy Accident came) should in one hour undo a Family for ever. For, 'tis not the Burning of an House, that (sometimes) terminates the Calamity that such a Negligence produces, but it is (*God *knows) too often attended with the Death of the Inhabitants, which are miserably involved in it, and their Lives become Victims to the Merciless Flames. As the following Relation Testifies, in the unexpected Deaths of* Seven *Persons; whose* Exits *out of this World, as they were unforeseen, so do they point out to us a remarkable Caution to use our utmost Diligence, to prevent the like towards our selves; and to deter Servants from that general Negligence, which have occasioned the Destruction of so many Masters and Families, of which this present Instance is so remarkable.*

ON the 27*th.* of *March* instant, a Dreadful Fire (about three a Clock in the Morning) broke out of the House of one Mr. *Seaton*, a *Pewterer*, at the Corner of *White-Cross-Street*, known by the Sign of the

the *Sea-Horse*, over-against *Cripple-Gate-Church*: And as to the Matter of Fact, it thus happened.

Mrs. *Seaton* being very great with Child, and drawing near her Travail, ordered her Maid to get the Chamber ready for that occasion, as expecting that Night to be the utmost period of her Reckoning; (which, *God* knows, it too true proved.) The Maid, pursuant to her Mistresses Commands, aires the Chamber, and lays such Linnen as was thought necessary before the Fire, to be aired: Now, whether she left the Linnen before the Fire, (by a strange Carelessness) or fell a-sleep over her Linnen, and so the Violence of the Heat took hold of it; the Eye of Heaven only saw, and therefore can be determined by none but *God* Almighty. The Post-Boy coming at that time by the House, and seeing a great Blaze, immediately cry'd out *Fire*: The Watchmen not being at their usual Stand, he went as far as the Watch at *Cripple-Gate*, with that unwelcom Tone of *Fire*: Upon which, the Watch there being alarm'd, repaired immediately to the House, and finding the report of the Post-Boy too true, raised the Neighbourhood with the crying *Fire*: But the Fire happening in a Timber-Built-House, and beginning one pair of Stairs, the Force of the Flames grew so ex-

ceeding great, that notwithstanding the Playing of Four Engines, that in an hours time were brought, and the indefatigable Endeavours of a great many Persons, the Flames ascended the Roof, and consumed all the In-side of the House, with the Goods, and what ever came in its Way, sweeping all before it; and (which was most lamentable, and to be deplored as a thing strange and surprizing) Sacrificed the Lives of Seven Persons to its mercilels Fury.

For, it being in the Dead of the Night, and both Mr. *Seaton*, and his Wife, and their next Neighbours, (to wit) Mr *Leach*, a Shoomaker, his Wife, and two Daughters, all Sleeping in their Beds, the Fire ascended with that Violence, that coming upon them in the dead of the Night, and not dreaming (no doubt) of so dismal an Accident, they were all likely to be involved in one Fate, had not Mr. *Seaton*, who endeavouring to save his dear Wife, who was bigg of the second Child, miraculously escaped through the *Smoak* and *Heat*; as likewise a Prentice Boy of Mr. *Leach*'s, that lay in the Shop; which happily escaped, though all the Goods were Burnt to Ashes.

The Fire, by the application of all necessary Help, being suppress and extinguished, so that the adjoyning

ing Houſes were entire and without Damage, the Ruins, upon break of Day, were ſearched, and the Bodies of the ſaid Perſons found, together with the *Child*, whoſe Entrance into this World was haſtned by this unfortunate Occurrence, and found its Cradle and Grave at once; the *Mother* lying near it, with a Chain of Gold about her Neck, which ſhe uſually wore: The ſudden falling of the Floor, probably hindring the Influence of the Fire on the Body; and conſequently, left room enough to diſtinguiſh them.

The Bodies thus found, were carry'd to a Neighbour's Houſe; and there lay as affrighting Spectacles to the People; who flocked to ſee them, as direful Inſtances of a ſad and unexpected Calamity. And were, ſome time afterwards, put in their ſeveral Coffins, and decently Interr'd; (*viz.*) Mrs. *Seaton*, and her *Child*, in one Coffin; Mr. *Leach*, and his *Wife*, in a Second; their *Two Daughters* in a Third; and the *Maid* in a Fourth.

Thus, READER, *You ſee the amazing and direful Effects of Careleſneſs; and how inſtructing ſuch Examples ought to be to all Perſons; and what need every one hath* (*eſpecially* Servants) *to be watchful to prevent*

Prevent such Calamitous Events, which, in so short time, not only can destroy Pleasant Buildings, but also the Lives of several Persons: And always to pray, That God *would Accept us at all Times, Receive us into his favourable Protection, Guide us by his Spirit, Guard us with his Angels; and, from sudden Death, Deliver us.* AMEN.

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FINIS.